

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/629,130

Examiner

Ernest F. Karlsen

Applicant(s)

TAQUCHI, TOMOAKI

Art Unit

2829

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the filing of July 29, 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 20 February 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☒ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


ERNEST KARLSEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Reasons for Allowance

No reference was found anticipating or a combination of references found making obvious an apparatus for inspecting an array substrate having gate lines, data lines that cross the gate lines, switching elements where the gate and data lines cross, pixel electrodes connected to the switching elements, storage capacitors formed by storage capacitor lines facing a part of each pixel electrode and gate-electrode capacitors formed between the gate lines and the pixel electrodes comprising: a first voltage source for applying a first voltage to the switching elements when charge is accumulated in the storage capacitors and the gate-electrode capacitors and a second voltage source for applying a second voltage to the switching elements so as to turn on the switching elements when the charges accumulated in the storage capacitors and the gate-electrode capacitors are read, the second voltage having a different voltage value than the first voltage or making obvious a method for inspecting an array substrate having gate lines, data lines that cross the gate lines, switching elements where the gate and data lines cross, pixel electrodes connected to the switching elements, storage capacitors formed by storage capacitor lines facing part of each pixel electrode and gate-electrode capacitors formed between the gate lines and the pixel electrodes comprising the steps of: applying a first voltage to the switching elements when charge is accumulated in the storage capacitors and the gate-electrode capacitors and applying a second voltage to the switching elements so as to turn on the switching elements when the charges accumulated in the storage capacitors and the gate-

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electrode capacitors are read, the second voltage having a different voltage value than the first voltage.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Suzuki et al, Ueda et al and Yamazaki et al are cited to show prior art apparatus and methods for inspecting array substrates when voltages are applied and capacitors charged with values produced to determine if damage has occurred.

Claims 1-12 are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Ernest F. Karlsen at telephone number 571-272-1961.

Ernest F. Karlsen

July 12, 2004


ERNEST KARLSEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER